



# CALTRANS COMMUTER ALERT

05-052

**Date:** Tuesday, February 8, 2005  
**District:** 08 – San Bernardino & Riverside Counties  
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**WHAT: SR-18 FROM LUCERNE VALLEY TO BIG BEAR OPENS TO TRAFFIC**

**WHEN: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2005 (1530)**

**WHERE: SAN BERNARDINO AND RIVERSIDE COUNTIES**

**San Bernardino** – The California Department of Transportation, Caltrans, is pleased to announce that SR-18 from Big Bear to the Lucerne Valley is opening to traffic for the almost 9,000 daily commuters. The contractor is working today to install guard rail, shoulder backing and place the final striping along 20 miles of new roadway. As long as there are no operational problems with the final striping, Caltrans expects to open it up to traffic **Tuesday evening, February 8, 2004, after 5 p.m.**

This portion of Route 18 has been closed since the rain storms in early January. The emergency repairs estimated at \$1.7 million, has taken almost 40 days to restore the roadway. Work will continue on this route with occasional lane restriction and flagging operation as the finishing touches are completed. Caltrans and the contractor, Match Corporation based in San Bernardino has been working hard to open this route as soon as possible.

“This is good news for commuters and the Big Bear Resort area. It will reduce the commute for many and offer more travel options for those driving between Big Bear and the high desert,” stated Rose Melgoza, Caltrans spokesperson.

Work continues along many different sections of the other mountain routes. As progress is made and it is safe to do so, the other roads will be opened. There are no other changes to the last Commuter Alert sent out since Monday. For those wanting to receive the latest update on mountain road conditions, please go to the Caltrans District 8 website at [www.dot.ca.gov/dist8](http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist8). We thank you for your patience and always remember, **Slow for the Cone Zone.**

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